

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

THE YEAR 1875.

Domestic Recipes.

**WATER SOUP.**—This white vegetable soup will be found most excellent. Take four or five good turnips, two heads of celery, four fine leeks, and wash them and slice them down; then put them into a steamer with a piece of butter and a knuckle of ham; moisten with a quart of stock, and let them stew gently till tender; then add a pint of milk and some crumbs of bread. Give all a good boil up, strain, and send to table very hot.

**EGG CHEESE CAKES.**—Take half a pound of finely sifted ground rice a quarter of a pound of flour, beat two eggs, and one must be well beaten together, then the butter and rives added, the whites of the eggs beaten together; mix all together, and flavor with a small blade of mace, finely powdered, and the peel of two lemons rubbed on sugar. The quicker this is made, the lighter the cheese cakes will be; the batter should be poured into little tartlet tins, not quite full, and bake in a brisk oven. Serve them cold.

**HAM OR TONGUE TOAST.**—Cut a slice of bread rather thick, toast it and butter it well on both sides. Take a small quantity of the remains of ham or tongue, and if you like, a few pats of butter, have ready chop-pead fine, two hard-boiled eggs, put both meat and eggs into a steamer with a little butter, salt, and cayenne, and in like it quite hot, then spread quickly on the toast, and serve immediately.

**KNUCKLES OF VEAL WITH RICE.**—Take a knuckle of veal, one onion, two turnips, a head of celery, six pepper corns, with a teaspoonful of rice, and boil very gently by the side of the fire for three hours; skim well, add a little salt, and serve with the rice around the veal. The stock in which the meat has boiled will help to make good soup.

**CRACKERS PLUM PUDDING.**—Make a very sweet custard, and put into it a tea-spoonful of sultanas. Take soda crackers, split them, and bathe them in the custard. Put a layer of raisins on the bottom of a large pudding dish, and then a layer of crackers, and pour on a little of the custard when warm, and after soaking a little, put on a thick layer of raisins, pressing them into the crackers with a knife. Then put on another layer of crackers, custard and frt, and proceed thus till you have four layers. Then pour over the whole enough custard to rise even with the crackers. It is best made at night, so that the crackers may soak. But during an hour and a half to two hours. During the first half-hour, pour on at three different times, a little of the custard, thinned with milk, to prevent the top from being hard and dry. If it browns fast cover with paper.

Take Care of Things.

It is not always possible to obtain fresh food from day to day as it is desired, and hence the necessity of preserving meats and vegetables in such a manner that they will not lose either their flavor or their wholeness. If prepared to be taken, a variety of common organic vegetables may be preserved for winter use. Meats also may be preserved. General rules for the preservation of food are somewhat defective, but economical reasons exist for the restricted exercise of this art. The principal consists in excluding the evil oxidizing influences of air and moisture. In dry goods this is done by keeping them dry and warm, and closely covered up. Starch, rice, tapioca, sago, macaroni, vegetables, sugar, sweetmeats, jams, salts, and dried and salted meats, tea, coffee, etc., require the same treatment; and they should be kept in separate closets from odorous goods, such as candleand soap, or they will catch the objectionable flavor. But with most fresh organic substances a different treatment is necessary to attain the same end. They contain in their own texture sufficient moisture and air to sustain them into decomposition, and the more stagnant these are the more surely do the chemical actions result. It is necessary, therefore, to let them have free ventilation; their external surface should be frequently wiped, or at least blown over by a current of air, so as to let the old moisture escape and fresh be absorbed. Thus meat should be hung in an open larder and be often dried. Letting them stand in water will not only mar and suspend them in a state fit for the time when they are dear. Onions and garlic should be strung up in an out-house, and not in the larder. Parsley, thyme, mint, and other herbs should be dried in the wind, out of the sun, and then each should be put in a separate paper bag, and hung up in the kitchen. Where apples, pears and chestnuts are stored, the windows should be left open and fruit frequently turned. Too much draught makes vegetables wither, so they should be laid on stone floors behind the door. Potatoes are best stocked in dry sand.

The date when each article is stored should be written down for future reference, so that proper attention may be given them. Eggs are an exception to the usual rule respecting organic substances. They cannot be treated in the same way as common vegetables, for yet it is impossible to avoid keeping them for culinary purposes. They are best preserved by being washed over with a solution of gum and packed in a box of bran, which is to be turned over every day.

Hones for Positry.

The various preparations of pure bones, selected and prepared as crushed, granulated, bone meal, etc., for feeding to poultry, are becoming each year more popular, and deservedly so. The experience of nearly every one who has given them a faithful trial, has been such as to make them a valuable article of the most reliable vendor, if being invariably found that by a judicious use of broken or ground new bone, the fowls are healthier, more prolific, and acquire less bad habits by confinement. Chickens fed on these preparations to the proper extent will grow to a much better size, the use of the bone having the effect to postpone the time when the bones harden, or, in common phrase, set. Chicks are, therefore, such for a great period, and may be kept growing for a longer time by the use of bone preparations.

A Washington Dandy.

These dandy boys they have in Washington are queer. One of them, according to a correspondent, wears his hair à la Pompadour. It is rolled back from his forehead over a cushion, or what the girls call "the rat's neck," gloved and low-slung, and fastened together, the most darling exquisite we have. He is very fastidious and critical about the toilettes of the young ladies whom he honors with a dance. His manners are as polished as his boots, and the baggages of his trowsers about his dainty feet has caused the suggestion to be made that they should be tied back like the ladies' skirts.

Notable Events of the Year.—What was Done at Home and Abroad.

The year has not been signalized by any extraordinary events in the history of the world. But for a few disturbances here and there, we might say that the whole human race has lived in peace through the year. The Cubans have concluded their contest with Spain, the war between the Carlists and the Alfonsists has been carried on in a desultory way, but of late there has been a hull in it. The Herzogovinians, in Europe, Turkey, have begun a rebellion against the Turkish rulers, and a number of petty actions have taken place with varying results, but the struggle does not seem to possess the elements of military success for them, and the question is, issue and the way of termination by negotiation. The martial dynasties, who have been led by their territorial ambition into hostilities with several neighboring countries, have pushed their conquests toward the equator, have seized Darfur, adjacent to their western line, and have invaded Abyssinia, but the latter country offered such resistance to their advance that they are preparing for the withdrawal of their expedition. The Russians have still their main army in China, where they have fought several battles, and met with one serious reverse, but the final result of the campaign has been favorable to their arms, and the Khanate Jkhokand has been virtually annexed to their possessions in that quarter. We have heard but little of the conquests of Yakoob Khan in western China; but that restless adventurer has at least maintained his power and kingdom in Chinese enemies at present. The British have just had some slight trouble in that part of Asia which constitutes the Malay peninsula; but recent dispatches announce the complete success of their small military force there. The Liberian republic, on the west coast of Africa, has been waging war on the savages among its population and near its borders, but looks as though the government would be compelled to give up the victory. The war of the Hollanders against Achense, which was begun three years ago, has not been formally terminated; but the army and navy of Holland have refrained from operations during the year. The Russians have annexed to their dominions the island of Saghalien, which formally belonged to the Japanese, but this has been done by peaceful negotiations. The British have passed in their own interests have turned out to be advantageous for the Republicans. 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